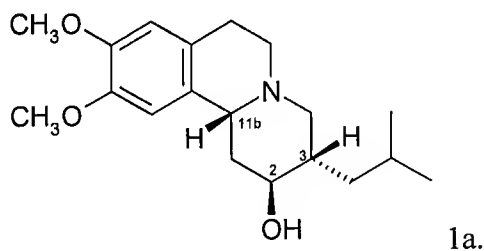


## REMARKS

The claims have been amended to introduce the phrase "or salt thereof" after the compounds. Support for this amendment can be found at least in paragraphs [0037] through [0042] of the published application. The claims have also been amended to correct obvious clerical errors in the dependencies. No new matter has been added.

Applicants elect to prosecute Group I, consisting of claims 35-50 and 57 drawn to compounds and compositions of formula (I). Applicants traverse towards Group II for the reason that it would not be an undue burden for the examiner to examine the claims of Group I and Group II together.

In response to the Examiner's requirement in the selection of Group I to elect a species, Applicants elect the 2*S*,3*S*,11*bR* isomer of claim 42, isomer 1a,



In response to the Examiner's requirement to elect a form of the compound, Applicants elect the acid addition salt of claim 47.

Claims 35, 36, 38, 39, 42, and 47 read on the elected isomer and form.

Applicants have elected the claims to the product. If these claims are allowed, applicants request that the restriction be withdrawn and the methods be rejoined in accordance with MPEP 821.04(b) provided that they depend from the allowable product claims, require all of the limitations of the allowable product claims, or are amended to require all of the limitations of the allowable product claims.

If the Examiner has any questions, or believes that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is cordially invited to contact Applicant's attorney at the telephone number provided below.

No fees are believed to be due with this response however, if any fees are due, or an overpayment has been made, the Commissioner is authorized to charge, or credit, U.S. Deposit Account No. 08-1935 for such sum.

Respectfully submitted,



Franklin S. Abrams

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Attorney for Applicants

Dated: December 24, 2008

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by electronic filing to: Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on December 24, 2008.



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